

Overdoses are medical emergencies

OVERDOSES ARE MEDICAL EMERGENCIES IT IS TIME WE TREAT THEM AS SUCH. WITH CARE, URGENCY, AND FREE OF JUDGMENT.



What substances can Narcan reverse in the event of an overdose?



(a list of opioids)

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What substances can Narcan reverse?

- Heroin
- Morphine
- Codeine
- Methadone
- Oxycodone (Percocet, oxycotin, roxicodone)
- Hydrocodone (Lortab, Vicodin, Norco)
- Oxymorphone (dilaudid)
- Buprenorphine (Suboxone, Subutex, zubsolv)
- Fentanyl



Fentanyl and fentanyl analogs (some stronger than fentanyl, some weaker) are not “naloxone resistant.”

They are opioids and will respond to naloxone if someone is overdosing. When it appears that someone overdosing is not responding to naloxone it may be because:

- the naloxone needs more time to take effect (wait 2-3 mins before administering more naloxone) they need more than one dose of naloxone (wait 2-3 minutes between doses)
- the naloxone was administered after the person had been without oxygen for too long
- You cannot overdose simply by touching fentanyl. It must be introduced into the bloodstream or a mucus membrane in order for someone to feel the effects.

Special Thanks

We would like to give a special thanks to Inland Empire Harm Reduction for providing Narcan training to our organization!

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Terms to Use and Avoid When Talking About Addiction



AVOID

INSTEAD USE

✦
ADDICT



Person with substance use disorder or Person who uses Drugs ✦

USER



Person with OUD or person with opioid addiction (when substance in use is opioids) ✦

**SUBSTANCE
OR DRUG
ABUSER**



Patient

JUNKIE



Person in active use; use the person's name, and then say "is in active use."



AVOID

INSTEAD USE

✦
ALCOHOLIC



Person with alcohol use disorder

DRUNK



Person who misuses alcohol/engages in unhealthy or hazardous alcohol use

✦
**FORMER
ADDICT**



Person in recovery or long-term recovery



AVOID

INSTEAD USE



**REFORMED
ADDICT** →

*Person who previously used
drugs*

**HARD
DRUGS** →

Highly Stigmatized Drugs



**CLEAN/
DIRTY
NEEDLES** →

Used or Unused Needles



WHY?


- *Person-first language, puts a person before a diagnosis, describing what condition a person "has" rather than asserting what a person "is".*
- *The change shows that a person "has" a problem, rather than "is" the problem.*
- *The terms avoid eliciting negative associations, punitive attitudes, and individual blame.*



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at Sierra Health Foundation

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AVOID	INSTEAD USE	WHY? ✨
<p>HABIT ✨</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substance use disorder • Drug addiction 	<p>Inaccurately implies that a person is choosing to use substances or can choose to stop. “Habit” may undermine the seriousness of the disease.</p>
<p>ABUSE</p>	<p>For illicit drugs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use <p>For prescription medications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misuse ✨ • Used other than prescribed 	<p>The term “abuse” was found to have a high association with negative judgments and punishment. Legitimate use of prescription medications is limited to their use as prescribed by the person to whom they are prescribed. Consumption outside these parameters is misuse.</p>

AVOID

INSTEAD USE

WHY?

CLEAN

For toxicology screen results:




- Testing negative

For non-toxicology purposes:

- Being in remission or recovery
- Abstinent from drugs
- Not drinking or taking drugs
- Not currently or actively using drugs

Use clinically accurate, non-stigmatizing terminology the same way it would be used for other medical conditions. Set an example with your own language when treating patients who might use stigmatizing slang. The use of such terms may evoke negative and punitive implicit cognitions.



AVOID	INSTEAD USE	 WHY?
 DIRTY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For toxicology screen results: Testing positive • For non-toxicology purposes: Person who uses drugs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use clinically accurate, non-stigmatizing terminology the same way it would be used for other medical conditions.  • This may decrease patients' sense of hope and self-efficacy for change.



Our words Matter!



They have the power to hurt or empower the people in our communities.

- Feeling stigmatized can reduce the willingness of individuals with SUD to seek treatment.
- Stigmatizing views of people with SUD are common; this stereotyping can lead others to feel pity, fear, anger, and a desire for social distance from people with SUD.
- Stigmatizing language can negatively influence healthcare providers' perceptions of people with SUD, which can impact the care they provide.



National Institute on Drug Abuse
Advancing Addiction Science



Words Matter - Terms to Use and Avoid When Talking About Addiction

<https://nida.nih.gov/nidamed-medical-health-professionals/health-professions-education/words-matter-terms-to-use-avoid-when-talking-about-addiction>

